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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(NORMAN LORRAINE, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.E.)

for

1932.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the year 1932.

Council Offices,
Canvey Island.

19th.July, 1933.

To the Chairman and Members of the Canvey Island Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you for your consideration my Annual Report for 1932.

I have appreciated the support given to me by the Members of the Council.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient Servant,
NORMAN LORRAINE.

HEALTH OF THE SCHOOL CHILD.

SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE .

See Report of 1929.

GENERAL.

Once again I am glad to record that we had no case of Smallpox in our district during the year and in regard to other notifiable diseases our bill of health is still very satisfactory.

I am very pleased to record that we have no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or Influenza.

I regret to report that a case of certified Encephalitis Lethargica died.

The local Medical Practitioners avail themselves of the opportunity afforded to them by the department and obtain Diphtheria Anti-toxin as required.

Cesspools have received a considerable amount of attention by the fact that 93 inspections were made during the year included in which is the Disposal Plant at the "Admiral Jellicoe"which received special attention both from the Port of London Authority Inspectors and the Sanitary Inspector of the district, as a result of which the Dyke at the rear into which the effluent of the Plant discharges is now flushed approximately once in every 14 days with satisfactory results as far as the Dyke is concerned.

It would therefore appear that the question of sewerage of the district is still a matter for serious consideration.

It is gratifying to record that upon representation the Council have a small systematic collection of tins and other refuse from the Council's own Bins placed in different and convenient parts of the district and so far the collection and disposal of the said refuse is satisfactory.

Water Supply.

I am glad to record that more houses on the Island are being connected to the Main Water Supply and since 1930 the number has risen from 10% to 27% to the end of 1932.

I look forward to the time when all the houses in the district will be connected to the Main Water Supply.

I should again like to mention that it would be in the interest of the Public Health Department that a full-time Clerk be provided, as much of the Sanitary Inspector's time is engaged in routine clerical work, which in my opinion would be better spent outdoors in the course of his duties in the district.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

NORMAN LORRAINE,

M.D.,M.B.,Ch.B.,F.R.S.,Edin.D.P.H.,
R.C.P.S.Edin., and R.F.P.S.Glas.

I. - GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	4400
Population (1921 Census)	1795
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1921. ...	512
Population, Mid-year, 1932 (Registrar General's figure.)	3897
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1932. ...	2770
Net product of Penny Rate.	£100 (approx)
Rateable Value.	£27184

2. - EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS:-

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
	76	38	38	
Legitimate.	-	36	36	
Illegitimate.	-	2	2	
Birth Rate.				19.5
Average for England and Wales				15.3

STILL BIRTHS:-

	2	1	1	
Legitimate.	-	1	1	
Illegitimate.	-	-	-	
Birth Rate per 1000 live births.				26.3

DEATHS:-

	47	24	23	
Death Rate.				12.06
Average for England and Wales				12.0
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions				21.
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, Child-birth				NIL
From Sepsis				NIL
From other Causes				NIL
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:				
Legitimate.	3	3	-	
Illegitimate.	-	-	-	

Average for England and Wales total deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births.	65
Average for Canvey Island total deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births.	39.4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	NIL
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	NIL
" " Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	NIL

CAUSES OF DEATH : -

		Male.	Female.
All Causes	..	24	23
Encephalitis lethargica	..	1	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	..	1	4
Cancer Malignant Disease.	..	7	3
Diabetes	..	-	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	..	1	4
Heart Disease	..	3	5
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	-	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	1	-
Peptic Ulcer	..	1	-
Other digestive Diseases	..	1	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth.	..	1	-
Senility	..	3	2
Suicide	..	2	-
Other Defined Diseases	..	2	1
Causes ill-defined or unknown.	..	-	1

3. - NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.	Nil	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	8	8	-
Diphtheria.	2	2	-
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever.	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	2 0	6	1
Other Diseases generally Notifiable:-			
Erysipelas	1	-	-

Other Diseases notifiable locally:-

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year 1932.

ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES INTO AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 year	1-4,	4-5,	5-10,	10-15,	15-20,	20-25,	25-35,	35-45,	45-65	65 and upwards.
Scarlet Fever.	-	2	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	2	6	2	5	1	-	-	1	-	1	2

SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Males.	Females.
Scarlet Fever.	3	5
Diphtheria	2	-
Pneumonia.	8	12

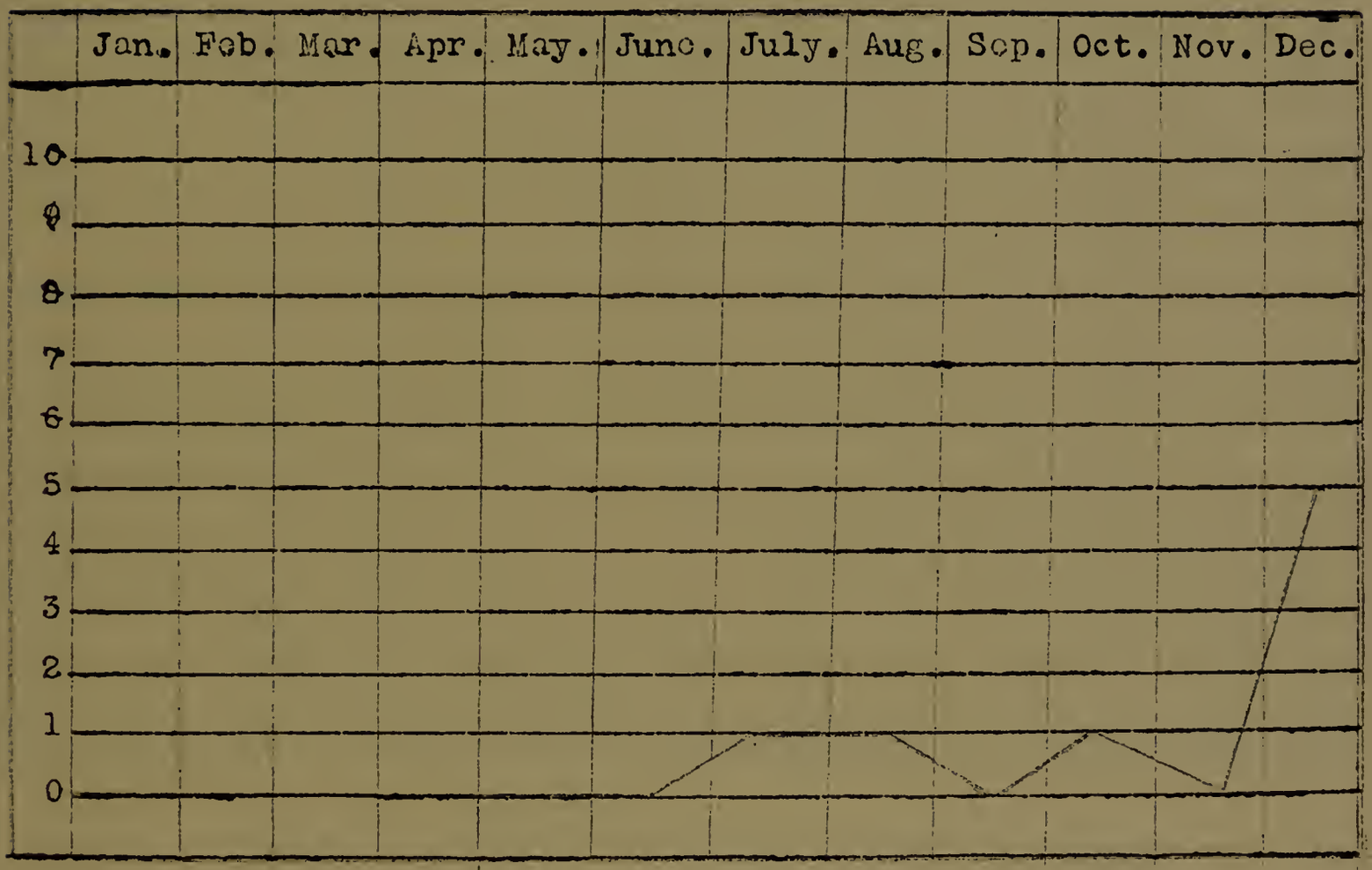
TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	New Cases Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Deaths Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
35	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
55	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	4	8	-	2	1	4	-	-

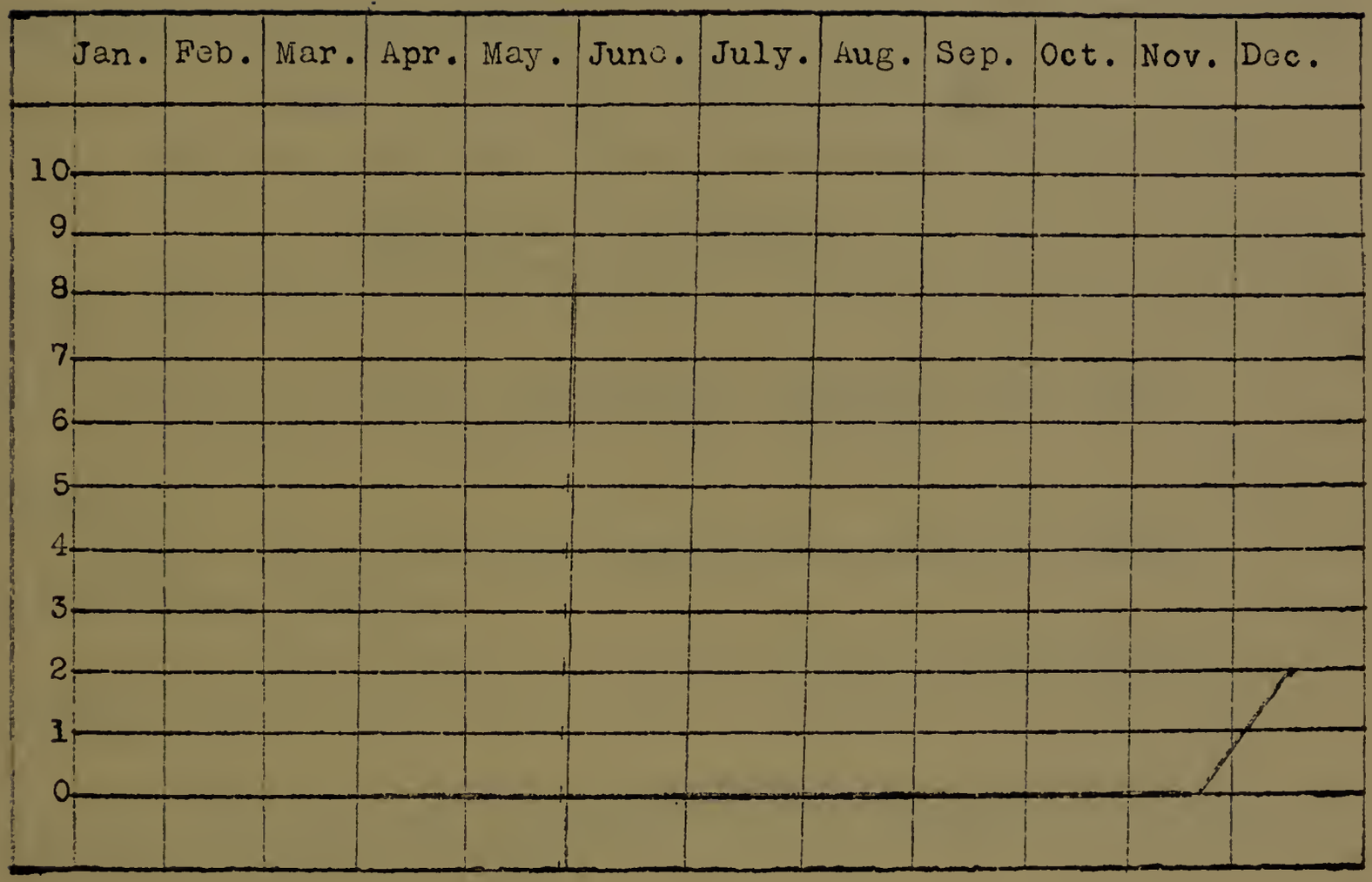
INFECTIOUS DISEASES CHART.

Showing number of cases notified each month.

SCARLET FEVER.



DIPHTHERIA.


Jan.
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RAG AND FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken during the year relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, Section 62.

No action was taken during the year under this section.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was necessary under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 66.

4. SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT..

Midwives.

There are two certified midwives practising in Canvey Island Urban District.

One of these Nurses is employed by the Canvey Island Nursing Association, and in cases of emergency, deputisation is arranged.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the District Nurse for the assistance she has rendered in particular at the Child Welfare Centre.

HOSPITALS.

Fever.

The Sutton Ford Isolation Hospital, near Rochford, receives cases from this district. The administrative authority is a Joint Isolation Board, two members of which represent Canvey Island Urban District.

This hospital consists of two blocks and has accomodation for 24 cases, those usually admitted being Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever.

HOSPITALS. (Contd)

Small-pox.

The Small-pox hospital at Nobles Green, Eastwood, is available for cases. It is administered by the same Committee as the Fever Hospital.

There are two wards with available space for three beds, allowing 144 sq.ft. of floor space for each bed.

Tuberculosis.

Sanatoria are provided by the County Council at Harold Court, Black Notley, etc.

Dispensary - 30, Clarence Street, Southend.The Dispensary is available for Canvey cases on Wednesday afternoons, from 2 p.m.

The district Tuberculosis Officer is your Medical Officer of Health.

Maternity.

There is no maternity hospital in the area, but a Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons monthly, under the supervision of Dr. J.B. Ratcliffe, at Whittier Hall, Canvey Island.

This is under the Essex County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Centre scheme, receiving a grant from County funds.

GENERAL HOSPITAL.

There is no general Hospital in the district and cases requiring in-patient treatment are sent to Southend, London, or Southend Municipal Hospital, Rochford.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children other than that provided by the Public Assistance Committee.

AMBULANCES.

For infectious cases there is a motor ambulance garaged at Sutton Ford Isolation Hospital. For non-infectious cases a hand ambulance has been providedby the Canvey Council.

This is in charge of the Police.

Canvey Island Urban District now has its own Motor Ambulance for non-infectious cases.

VENEREAL DISEASES .

Treatment centres are available at Southend and London for Canvey cases.

DISINFECTION.

After a case of infectious disease is removed to hospital the premises are fumigated and sprayed with disinfectant.
Bedding, etc; can be removed for disinfection at the same time as the patient is admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

5.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological specimens are sent to the Essex County Council Laboratories, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C. and every advantage is taken of these facilities, particularly for the examination of throat swabs in cases of suspected Diphtheria.

Number of specimens examined by the Bcateriologist for Essex, for the district during the year ended 31st December, 1932.

Specimen.	Number Examined.
Diphtheria	27
Sputa	14
Typhoid	1
Ringworm	-
Miscellaneous... ...	-
Total	42
Biological Examination	-

Number of midwives practising in the area. 2

Number of Registered Nursing Homes. .... -

Water Supply.

See General Remarks.

Schools.

The Sanitary arrangements in the schools are still satisfactory.

Public Conveniences.

New permanent Public Conveniences are being erected at the far end of Furtherwick Road, which are expected to be completed during the season of 1933.

They are being constructed with a view to meet the over increasing number of visitors.

Apart from this there is a Temporary Public Convenience in Furtherwick Road and another near the Pavillion.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1926.

No special designated milk was produced or sold in the district during the year 1932.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During the year inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies have been made but having regard to increasing district demand upon the Sanitary Inspector's time no samples of milk were taken from Farms for the purpose of the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

Six samples of milk were taken by the Essex County Council for Biological Examination, and resulted in two being positive, 1 inconclusive and three negative.

It is interesting to note the increasing number of persons registered for the sale of sterilized milk in sealed bottles only.

(b) Meat.

There are no slaughter houses in the district.
The butchers' shops are periodically visited and meat therein inspected.

(c) Fish.

Fish shops in the district have been inspected and fish therein examined, as well as attention being paid to cleanliness of the premises and utensils.

(d) Offensive Trades.

There are no scheduled offensive trades in the district.
There are no Common Lodging Houses.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

This work is performed by the Essex County Council.

GENERAL.

Public Health Staff -

Medical Officer of Health, - Part time.

Norman Lorraine, M.D.,M.B.,Ch.B.,F.R.S.
Ed.D.P.H.,R.C.P.S.Edin., and R.F.P.S.Glas.

Also Medical Officer of Health for Benfleet, Rayleigh, Shoeburyness Urban Districts, and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector - Whole time.

D.E. Williams, C.R.San.I., and Inspector under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, The Factory and Workshops Act, and the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

One half of the salary attached to these offices is paid by the County Council from the Exchequer Contribution Fund.

Health Visitor.

Miss P.M. Richardson, General Training, London Hospital ; Central Midwives' Certificate, Clapham; Queen's Jubilee Nurse; Health Visitors' Certificates, Old and New.

She takes part in the nursing service of the Child Welfare, School and Tuberculosis work under the Essex County Council.

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REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

for

1932.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Inspections.		Notices:			
Nature of	Number	Informal	Formal	Complied with.	Out-standing.
Disinfection.	14	-	-	-	-
Dangerous Infectious Diseases	11	-	-	-	-
Housing.	52	15	3	18	-
Overcrowding.	19	1	2	3	-
Schools	3	-	-	-	-
Cowsheds and Dairies.	78	1	-	1	-
Milk Vehicles	35	-	-	-	-
Butchers Fish and General Shops	117	1	-	1	-
New Drains to existing buildings	8	-	1	1	-
Defective Drains.	25	2	1	3	-
Bakehouses	25	3	-	3	-
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	19	-	-	-	-
Cesspools & Disposal Plant	93	7	4	11	-
Water Supply	38	2	3	5	-
Camping Ground.	9	-	-	-	-
Public Conveniences	21	-	-	-	-
Ditches or Dykes	69	7	-	7	-
Urinals & Conveniences attached to Licensed premises, Clubs and Halls.	78	6	-	6	-
Waste pipes discharging into Dykes.	18	6	-	6	-
Other Nuisances.	90	17	1	18	-
Totals	822	68	15	83	-

SMOKE ABATEMENT - No action was necessary this year.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises	Inspections.	No. of written Notices.	No. of Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories	19	2	-
Workshops	6	1	-
Workplaces	-	-	-
	25	3	-

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:-ø

Particulars.	Number of defects Found	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness.	2	2
Want of ventilation.	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-
Want of drainage of floors.	-	-
Other Nuisances.	2	2
Sanitary Accomodation:		
Insufficient.	-	-
Unsuitable or defective.	1	1
Not separate for sexes.	-	-
	5	5

Offences under the Factory and Workshops Act:-

Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s101) Nil
Other Offences ... ... Nil

(Excluding Offences relating to outwork and offences under the sections mentioned in the schedule to the Ministry of Health(Factories and Workshops Transfer of Power) Order, 1921)

ø Including those specified in Sections 2,3,7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

6. HOUSING, ETC.

1. Number of New Houses erected during the year 1932:-

(i) By the Local Authority	... ...	Nil
(ii) By other Local Authorities	... ...	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	... ...	155
	Total	155

2. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 26

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 71

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1932. .. .. .. Nil

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Nil

3. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 16

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

A. Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:-

(a) By owners. -

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 5

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after Service of Formal Notices:-

(a) By owners. 5

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930:-

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. -

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. -

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. -

E. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices became operative requiring repairs. -

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after Service of Formal Notices:-

(a) By owners. -

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. -

F. Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative. -

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. -

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders became operative. -

(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. -

GENERAL.

In addition to the Notices served, 198 letters of warning with advice or request were sent out to various property owners and/or occupiers within the district relative to general nuisances, Cesspools, storage of food, etc; under the Public Health Acts, in this district.

Fifteen of these letters were in connection with the storage and distribution of milk and 88 were relative to the water supply to various properties in this district.

It is gratifying to record that these letters were very effective and in some cases resulting in the properties being connected to the Water Main where possible, without the necessity of serving Notices.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

Owing to the rapid development of the district much more of my time is now taken up in connection with the increased storage places and distribution of Petroleum Spirit.

MILK.

There is an interesting increase of registered purveyors of sterilized milk within the district. At the end of December, 1932, there were 31 on the Register as against 15 for the year 1929.

Sterilized Milk is considered to be a safe milk though its somewhat peculiar flavour does not appeal to all.

It is pleasing to be able to say that by steady pressure brought about during the 78 inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies during the year in this district the Producers and Retailers have considerably improved the conditions of handling milk and in this connection it will be observed that Milk Vehicles have had special attention, 35 inspections being recorded.

WATER.

A considerable amount of my time was taken up during the drought in the season of this year by persons chiefly holiday folk having taken bungalows not on the line of Water Main , being unable to obtain wholesome drinking water.

A differcult position arose from the fact that the Southend Waterworks Company refused to allow those connected to the Water Main and Licensed, to sell water to persons occupying bungalows not on the line of Main unless a Certificate from the Water Company had previously been obtained by the occupier for which a charge of 10/- per annum was made.